

### **REMARKS**

Applicants request entry of this amendment and reconsideration of the rejection of the claims.

Claims 14-22 and 25-46 are pending. Applicants have cancelled claims 14-22 and 25-33 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation application or RCE covering the subject matter of these claims.

### **Information Disclosure Statement**

Applicants are again resubmitting the Information Disclosure Statement and Form 1449 previously submitted on January 7, 2000, and July 25, 2002. The postcard received from the PTO concerning the initial filing of the Information Disclosure Statement indicated that 12 references were received by the PTO (copy attached). However, in the interest of saving time, Applicants are hereby submitting another copy of references 60-65.

### **35 U.S.C. § 103**

The Examiner rejected claims 14-22 and 25-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Foster et al. in view of Ashkenazi et al. and Berman et al. Without acquiescing in the rejection and solely to expedite prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claims 14-22 and 25-33 without prejudice. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

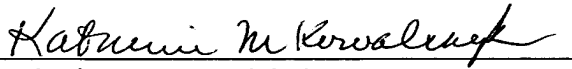
### **SUMMARY**

Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date: March 4, 2003

  
Katherine M. Kowalchuk  
Reg. No. 36,848  
KMK:sab

